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Labour Account Australia

Provides estimates for the Australian Labour Account, a framework to produce a coherent and consistent set of aggregate labour statistics

Reference period December 2019

Released 11/03/2020

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Key statistics

- Total number of jobs increased 0.6% (82,000) in trend terms.
- Total number of employed persons increased 0.4% in trend terms.
- Job vacancies up 1.7% in trend terms.
- Hours actually worked increased to 0.6% in trend terms.

Key findings

The number of filled jobs in Australia increased by 134,600 to 14.5 million in seasonally

adjusted terms in the December quarter 2019.

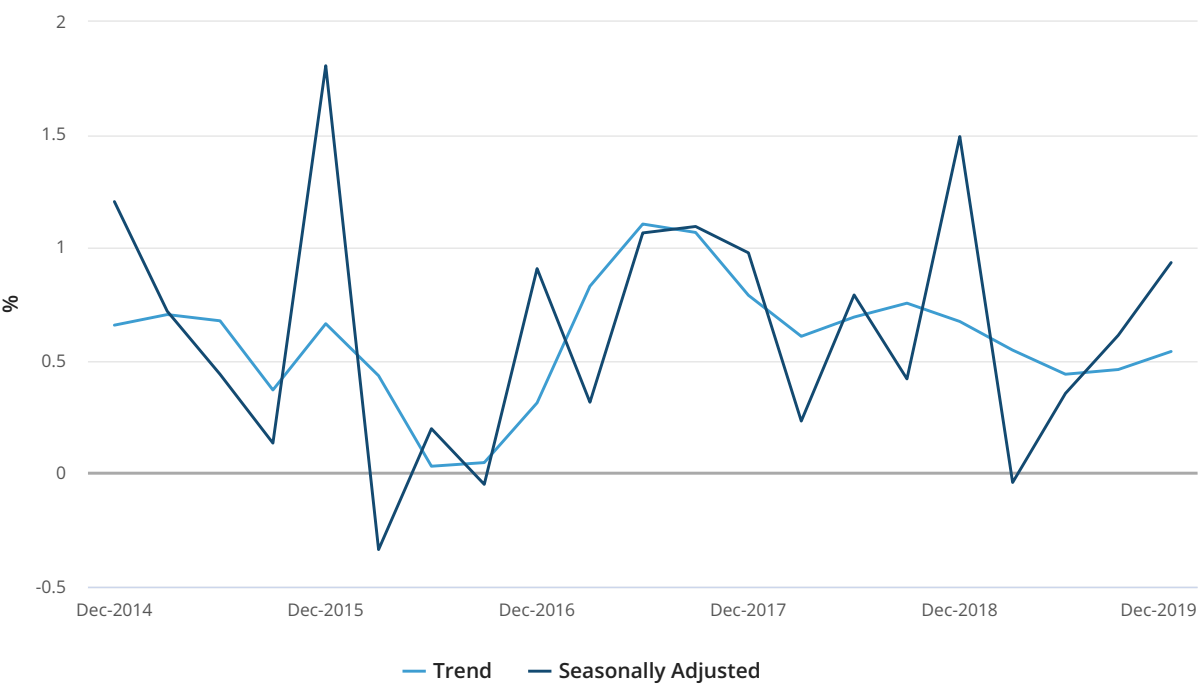
Main jobs increased by 102,800 and secondary jobs increased by 31,700.

Hours actually worked increased by 15.3 million hours to 5.4 billion hours.

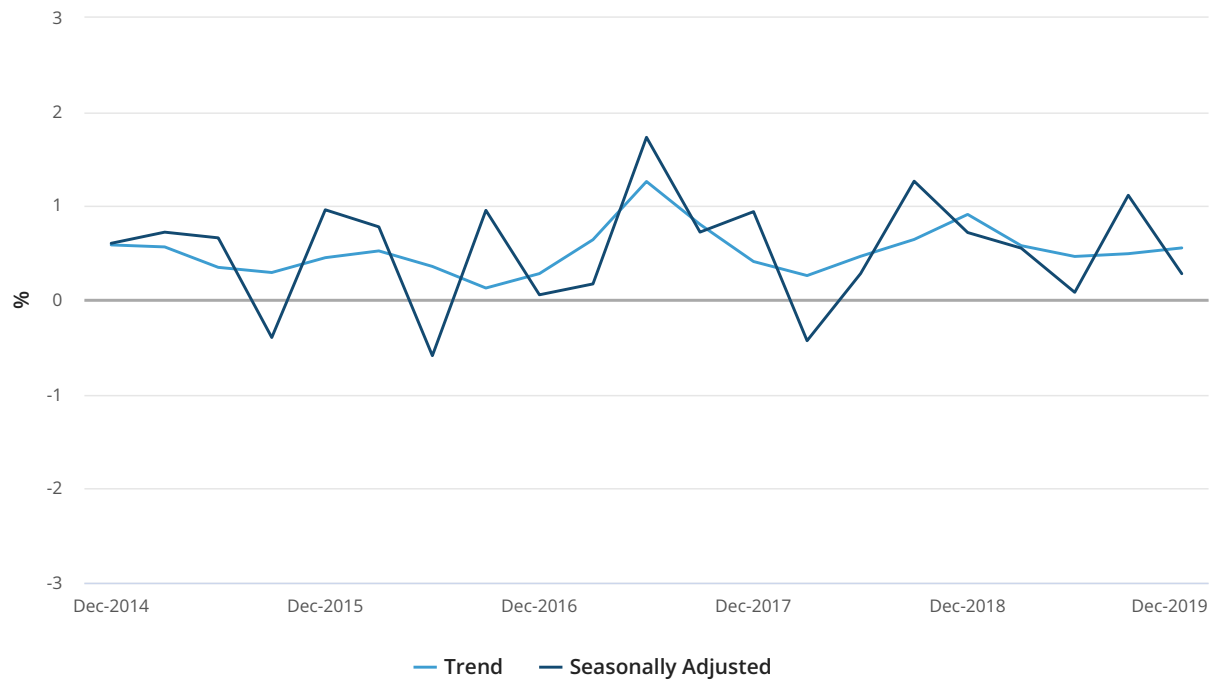
Total labour income increased by \$2,573 million, resulting in the average labour income per employed person being \$19,216.

Data Item Description	Trend		Seasonally Adjusted	
	Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change
Filled Jobs	0.5	2.0	0.9	1.9
Main Job	0.4	2.2	0.8	2.2
Secondary Job	2.2	-0.1	3.4	-2.7
Job Vacancies	1.7	-1.1	2.4	-1.0
Hours Actually Worked	0.6	2.1	0.3	2.0
Average Hours Actually Worked Per Job	0.0	0.1	-0.6	0.2
Average Income Per Employed Person	0.8	2.1	0.8	2.1

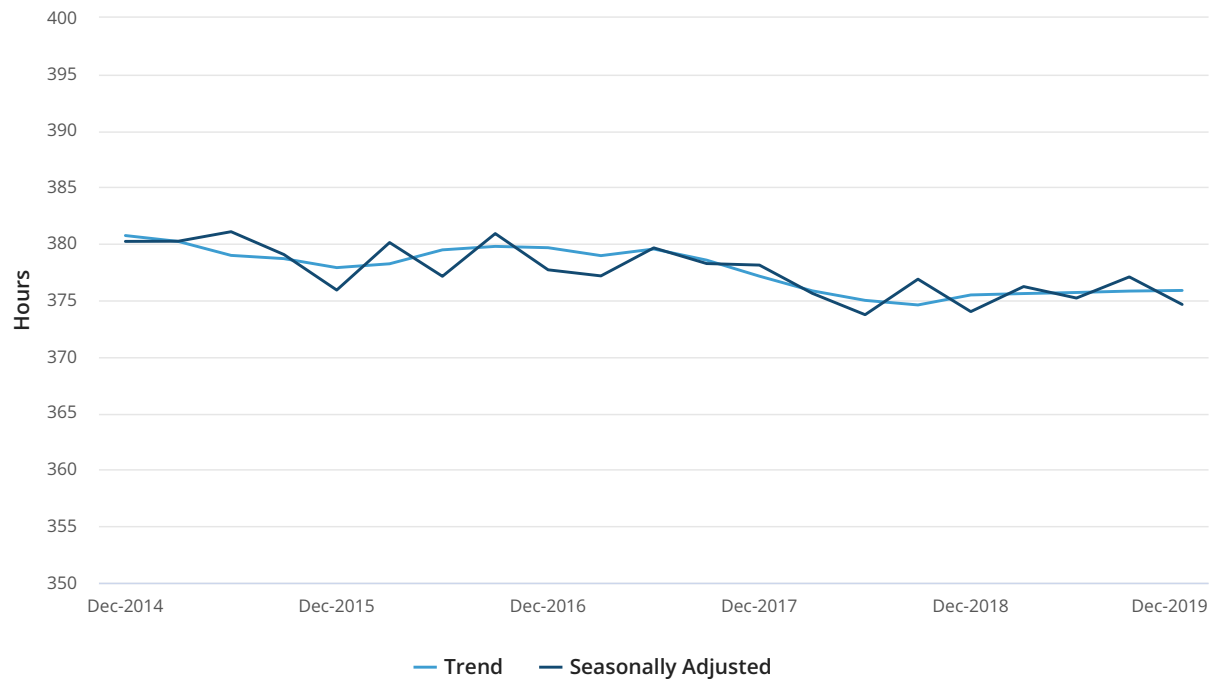
Filled jobs - growth



Aggregate hours worked - growth



Average quarterly hours worked per job



Analysis

Trend

In trend terms the total number of jobs in Australia increased by 82,000 (or 0.6%), made up of 4,000 job vacancies and 78,000 filled jobs.

Filled jobs in Australia grew by 0.5% in the December quarter 2019, following a 0.5% rise in the September quarter 2019. Filled jobs grew 2.0% through the year in trend terms.

The number of main jobs grew by 56,700 (an increase of 0.4%) while secondary jobs grew by 21,300 (an increase of 2.2%) in the December quarter 2019.

The total number of employed persons increased by 0.4% to 13.5 million in the December quarter 2019.

The total number of hours actually worked increased by 0.6% to 5.4 billion hours and total

labour income increased by 1.2% to \$260,105 million.

Seasonally adjusted

Jobs

Filled jobs in Australia grew by 0.9% in the December quarter 2019, following a 0.6% rise in the September quarter 2019. Filled jobs grew 1.9% through the year in seasonally adjusted terms.

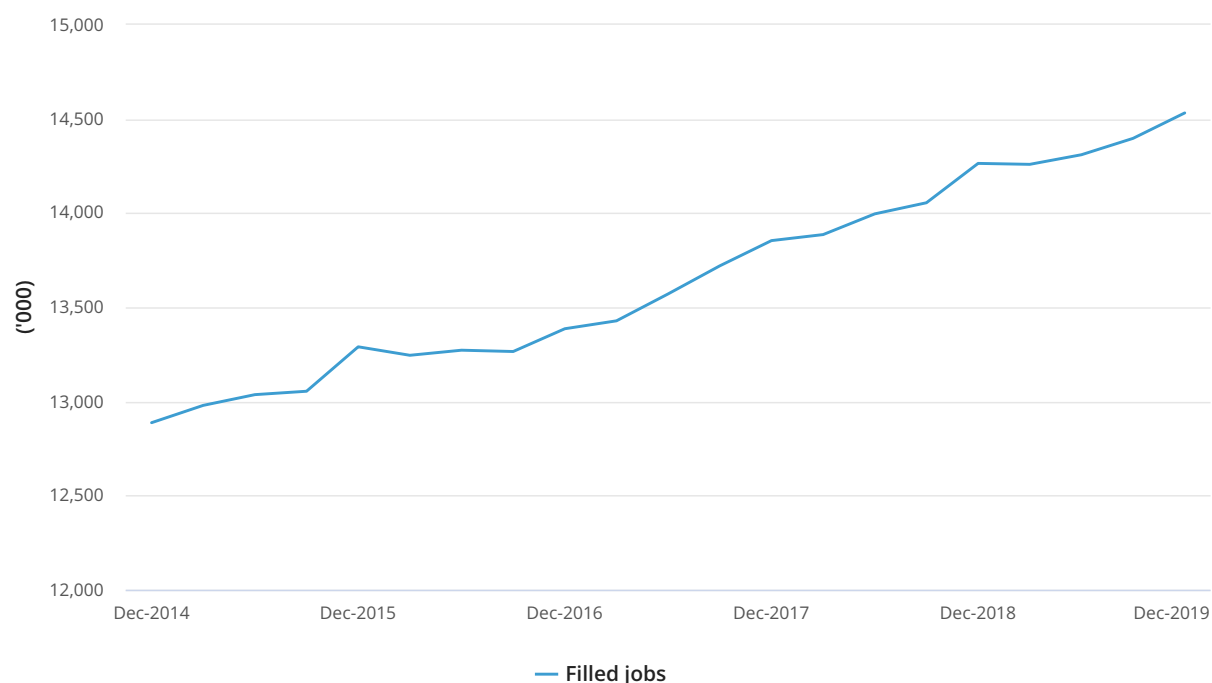
The total number of jobs in Australia increased by 140,200 (or 1.0%), made up of 5,700 job vacancies and 134,600 filled jobs.

The proportion of vacant jobs (PVJ) remained the same at 1.6% in the December quarter 2019, following a recent high of 1.7% in the June quarter 2019.

The number of main jobs grew by 102,800 (an increase of 0.8%), while secondary jobs increased by 31,700 (an increase of 3.4%) in the December quarter 2019.

The number of public sector jobs increased by 0.3% in the December 2019 quarter, while the number of private sector jobs increased by 0.7%.

Filled jobs



Persons

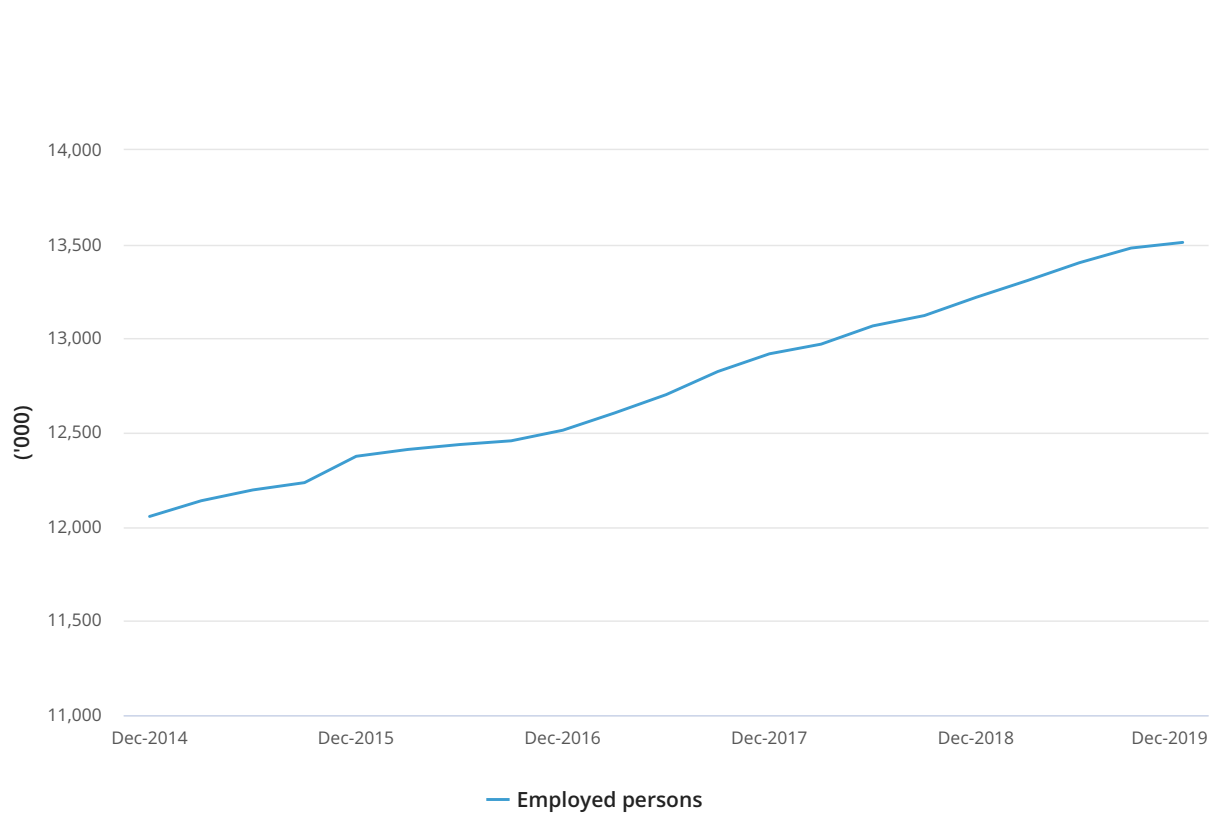
The total number of employed persons increased by 0.2% to 13.5 million in the December quarter 2019.

The number of multiple job holders decreased by 1.1% in the December quarter 2019.

There were 693,000 unemployed persons in the December quarter 2019, a decrease of 16,000 persons from September quarter 2019.

There were 1,126,000 underemployed persons in the December quarter 2019, a decrease of 21,000 persons from September quarter 2019.

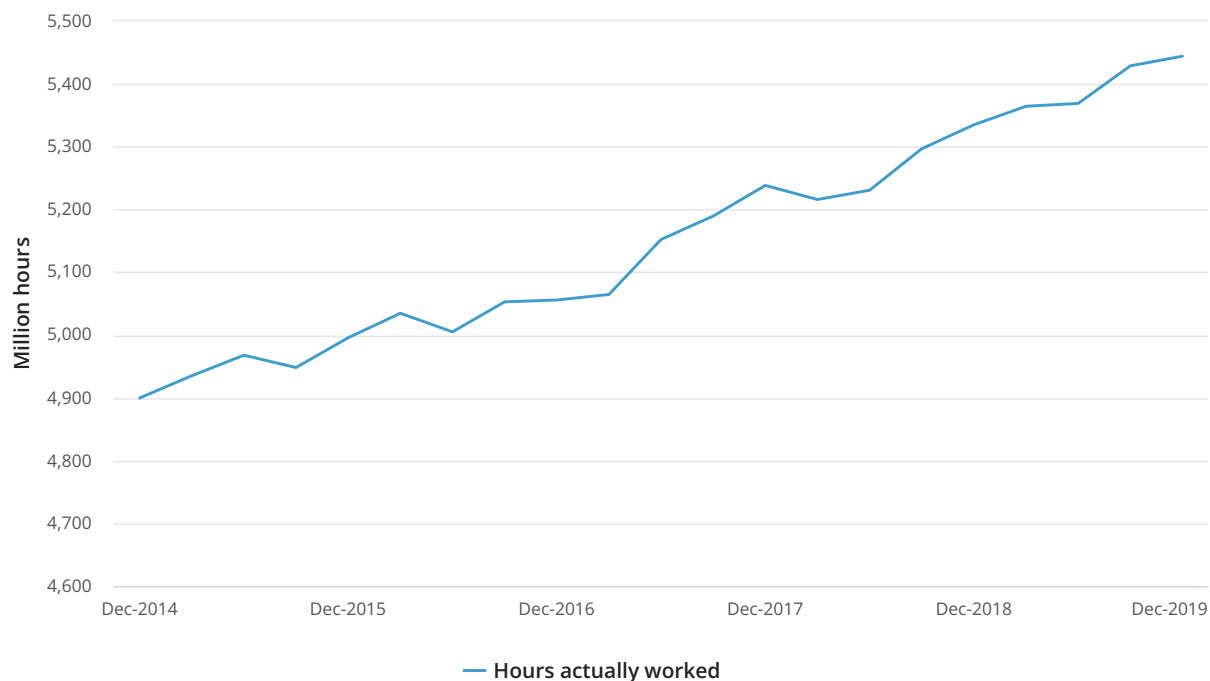
Employed persons



Volumes

The total number of hours actually worked increased by 0.3% to 5.4 billion hours; and the total number of hours paid increased 0.8% to 5.9 billion hours.

Hours actually worked



Payments

Total labour income increased by 1.0% to \$259,616 million.

Total compensation of employees increased by 1.1% to \$237,738 million, and labour income from self-employment increased by 0.1% to \$21,879 million.

Over the same period, total labour costs increased by \$2,731 million (1.0%) to \$276,800 million.

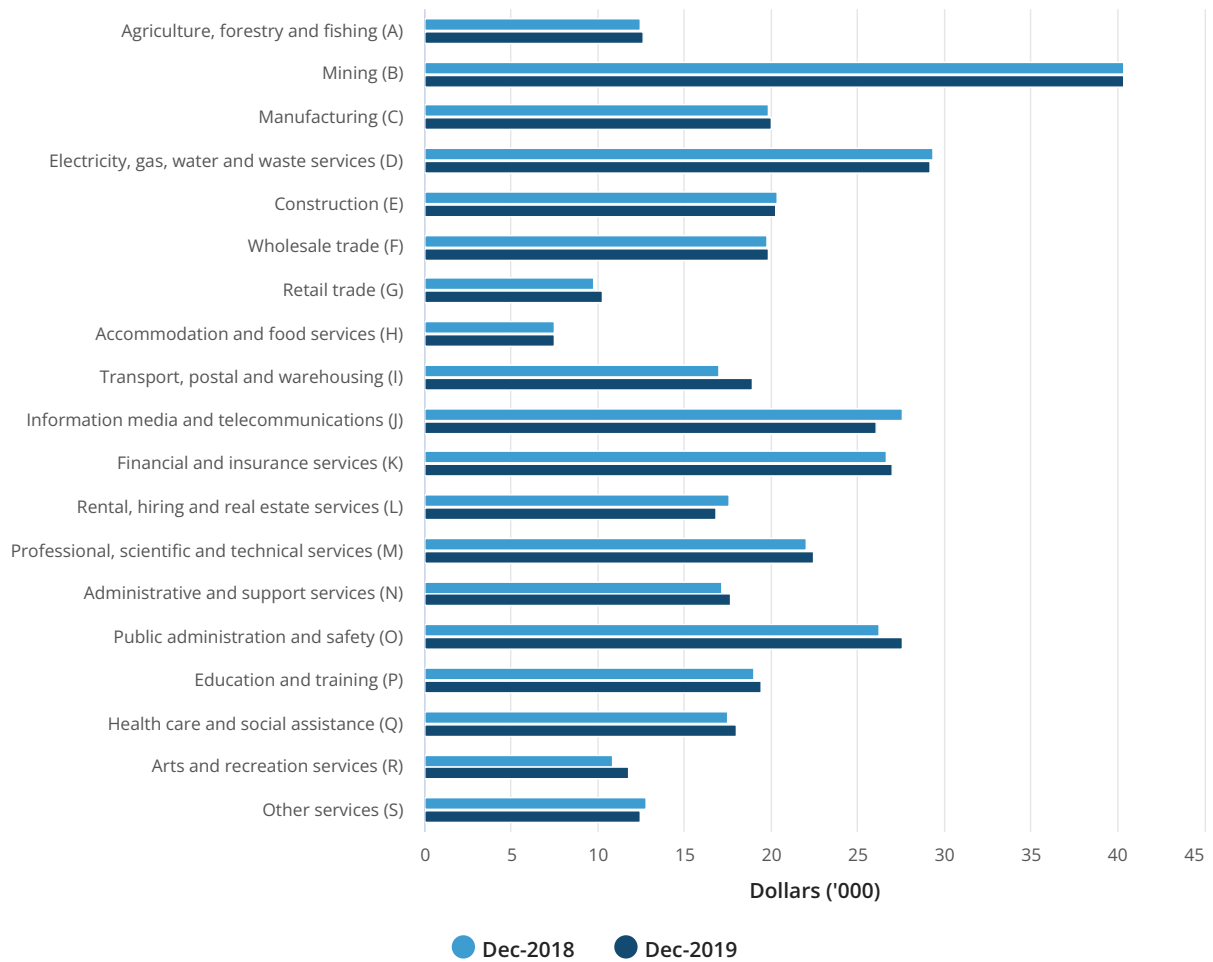
Ratio

Average income per person increased by 0.8% to \$19,216 in the December quarter 2019.

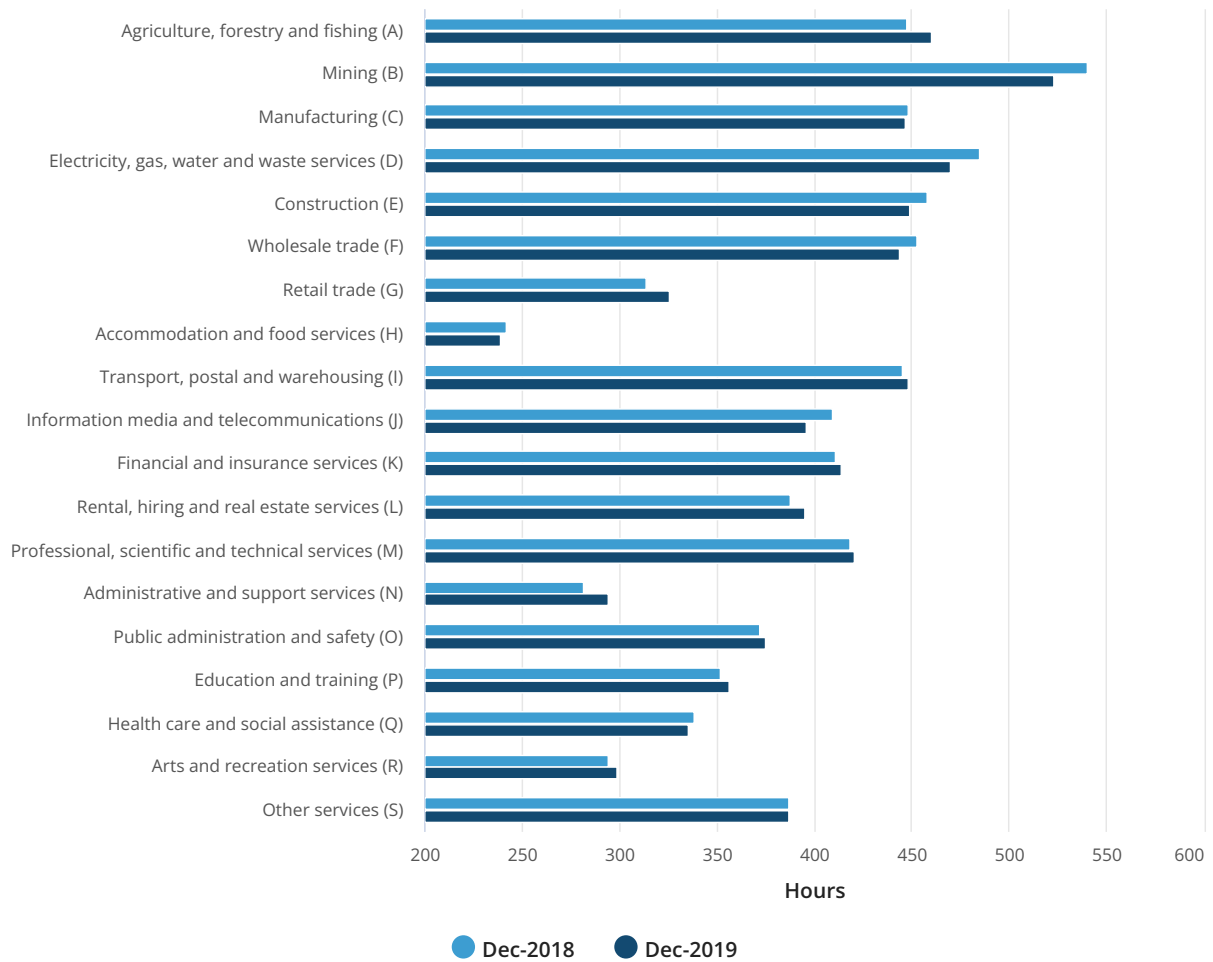
Average hours worked per job decreased by 0.6% to 375 hours. Average hours worked per job is the hours actually worked divided by all filled jobs.

Average labour cost per hour paid remained the same at \$47.

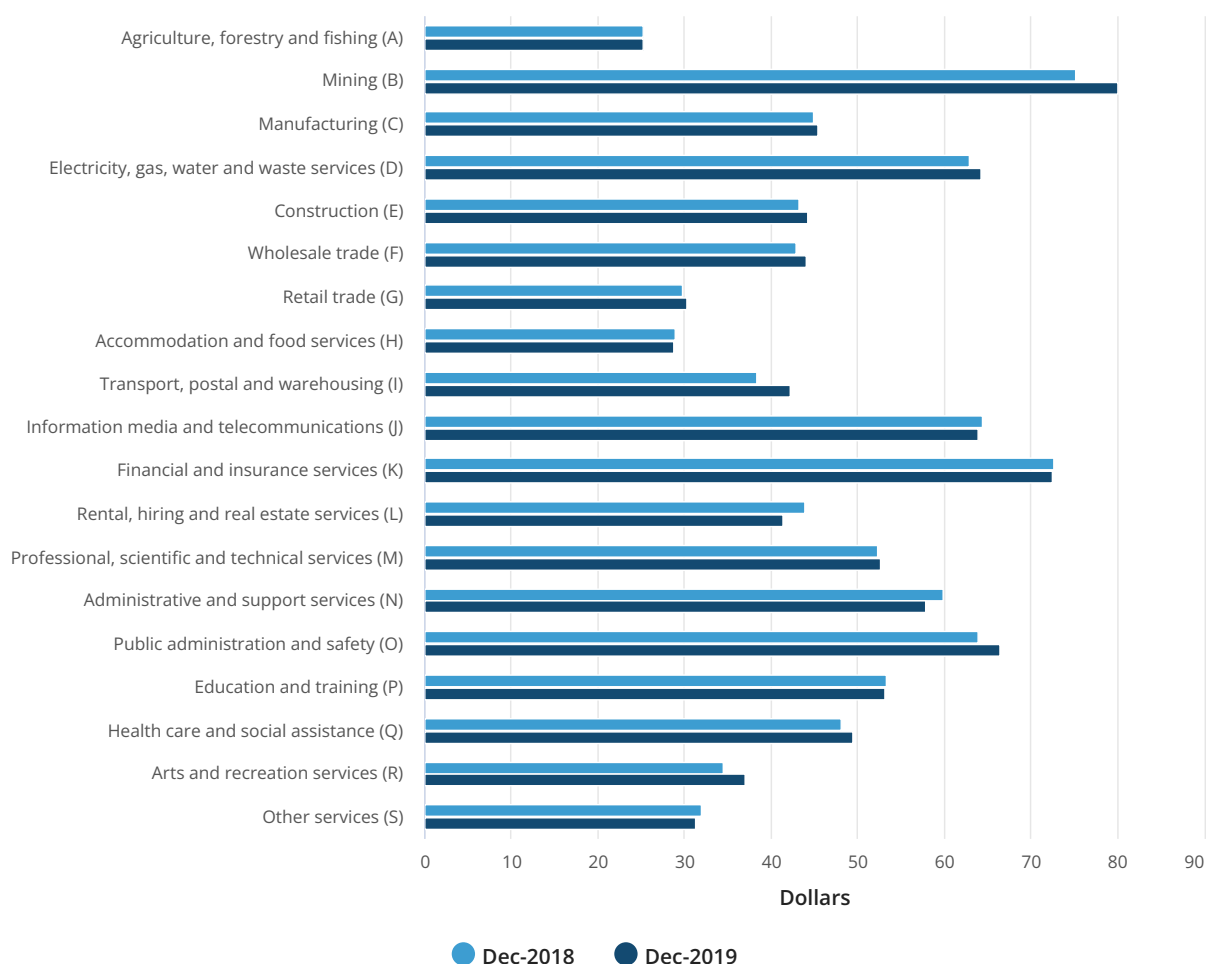
Average income per employed person, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



Average hours actually worked per job, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



Average labour cost per hour paid, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



Jobs

Filled jobs in Australia grew by 0.9% in the December quarter 2019, following a 0.6% rise in the September quarter 2019. Filled jobs grew 1.9% through the year in seasonally adjusted terms.

Labour account filled jobs, proportion by industry, December quarter 2019

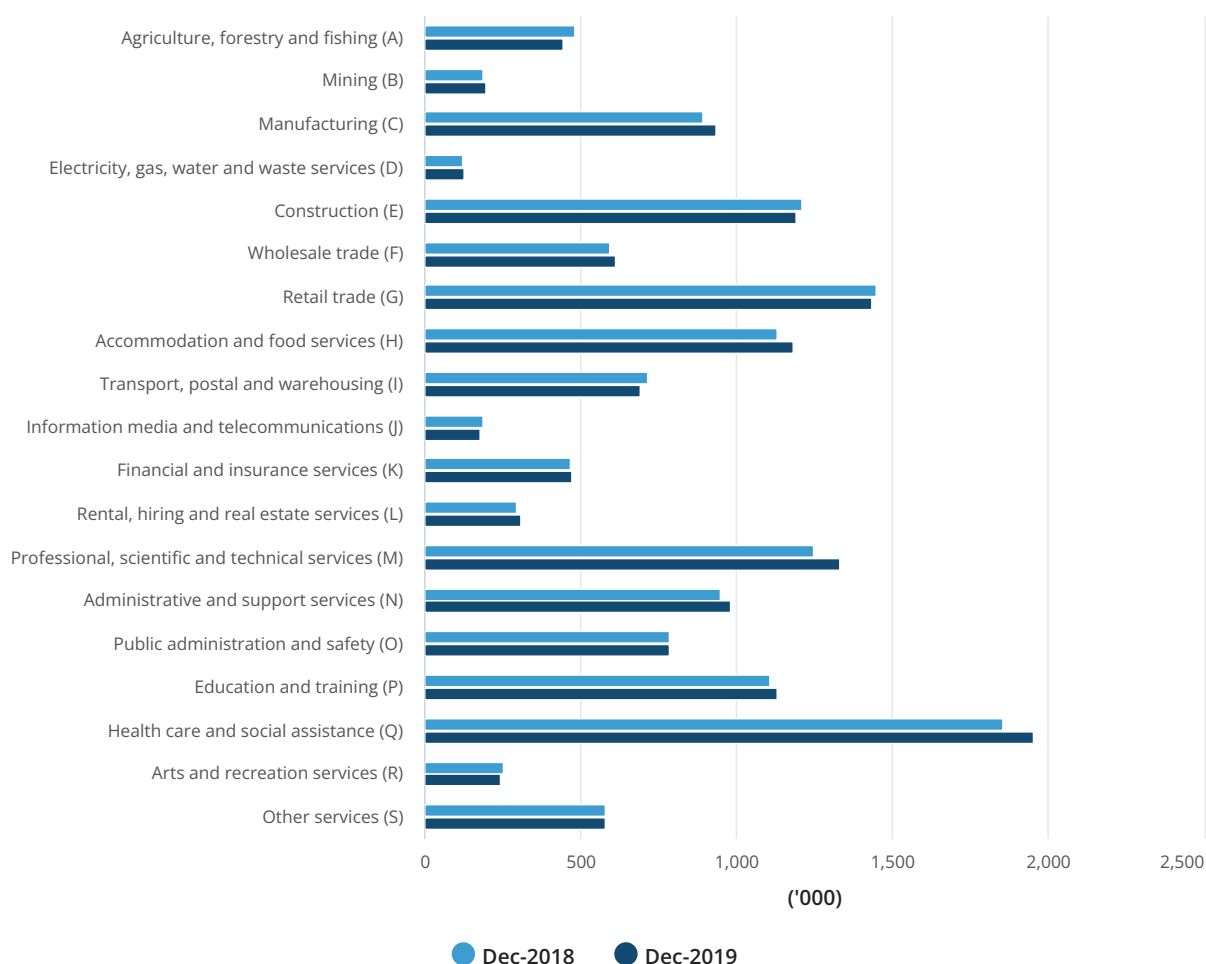
Industry	Labour Account filled jobs December qtr 2019 ('000)	Proportion of total all industries December qtr 2019 (%)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)	441.0	3.0
Mining (B)	191.5	1.3
Manufacturing (C)	921.2	6.3
Electricity, gas, water and waste services (D)	123.8	0.9
Construction (E)	1,174.8	8.1
Wholesale trade (F)	600.0	4.1
Retail trade (G)	1,412.3	9.7
Accommodation and food services (H)	1,167.7	8.0
Transport, postal and warehousing (I)	685.6	4.7
Information media and telecommunications (J)	176.5	1.2
Financial and insurance services (K)	460.1	3.2
Rental, hiring and real estate services (L)	307.9	2.1
Professional, scientific and technical services (M)	1,307.5	9.0
Administrative and support services (N)	934.1	6.4
Public administration and safety (O)	771.6	5.3
Education and training (P)	1,123.6	7.7
Health care and social assistance (Q)	1,923.2	13.2
Arts and recreation services (R)	240.0	1.7
Other services (S)	569.5	3.9
Total all industries	14,531.9	100.0

Labour account filled jobs, percentage change by industry, December quarter 2019

Industry	Trend - Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Trend - Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Seasonally adjusted - Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Seasonally adjusted - Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)	-2.2	-8.0	-1.9	-8.3
Mining (B)	0.3	6.5	-0.7	6.1
Manufacturing (C)	1.0	4.1	1.1	4.5
Electricity, gas water and waste services (D)	0.6	5.8	-1.6	4.4
Construction (E)	0.7	-0.9	1.4	-1.3
Wholesale trade (F)	0.9	3.4	0.6	3.0
Retail trade (G)	-0.2	-0.7	1.0	-1.1
Accommodation and food services (H)	1.2	3.3	2.1	4.6
Transport, postal and warehousing (I)	0.0	-0.4	-2.4	-3.1
Information media and telecommunications (J)	-1.0	-4.6	-2.0	-5.2
Financial and insurance services (K)	1.2	1.1	2.2	1.2

Industry	Trend - Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Trend - Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Seasonally adjusted - Sep qtr 2019 to Dec qtr 2019 % change	Seasonally adjusted - Dec qtr 2018 to Dec qtr 2019 % change
Rental, hiring and real estate services (L)	2.0	5.5	2.5	7.1
Professional, scientific and technical services (M)	2.2	5.3	4.0	7.1
Administrative and support services (N)	0.5	3.7	-0.1	3.2
Public administration and safety (O)	0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Education and training (P)	0.0	3.4	-1.2	1.9
Health care and social assistance (Q)	1.0	4.8	2.7	5.3
Arts and recreation services (R)	0.0	1.3	-0.8	-4.1
Other services (S)	-1.6	-0.7	-0.6	-0.2
Total all industries	0.5	2.0	0.9	1.9

Total jobs, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



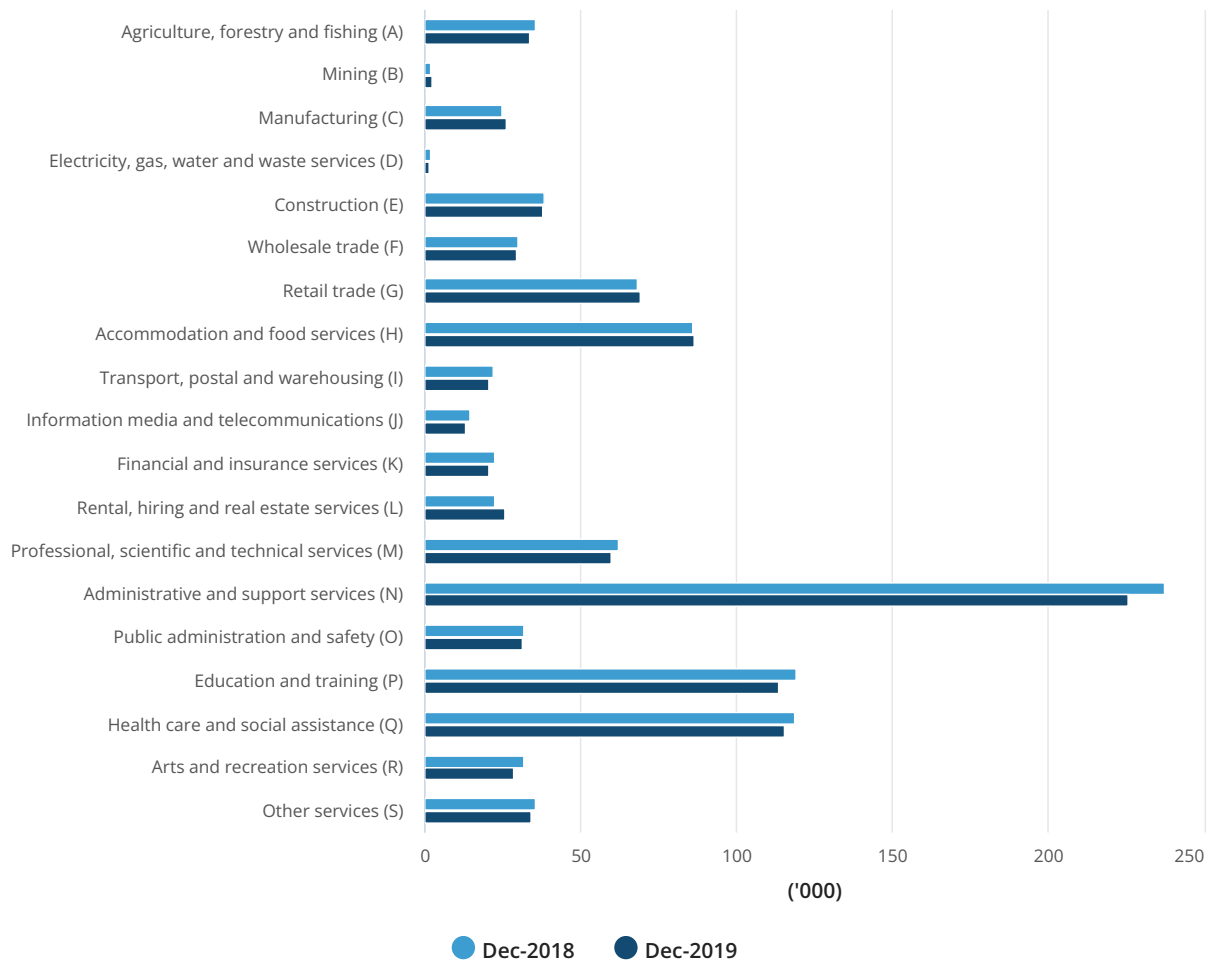
Secondary jobs

Secondary jobs are where a person is working more than one job at the same time, and may consist of one or more additional jobs. These jobs can be held by persons who have their main job in the same or a different industry. The proportion of secondary jobs to filled jobs was 6.7% in the December quarter 2019 and 6.6% in the previous quarter.

The top three industries who have the highest number of secondary jobs in the December

quarter 2019 were Administrative and support services, Health care and social assistance and Education and training.

Secondary jobs, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



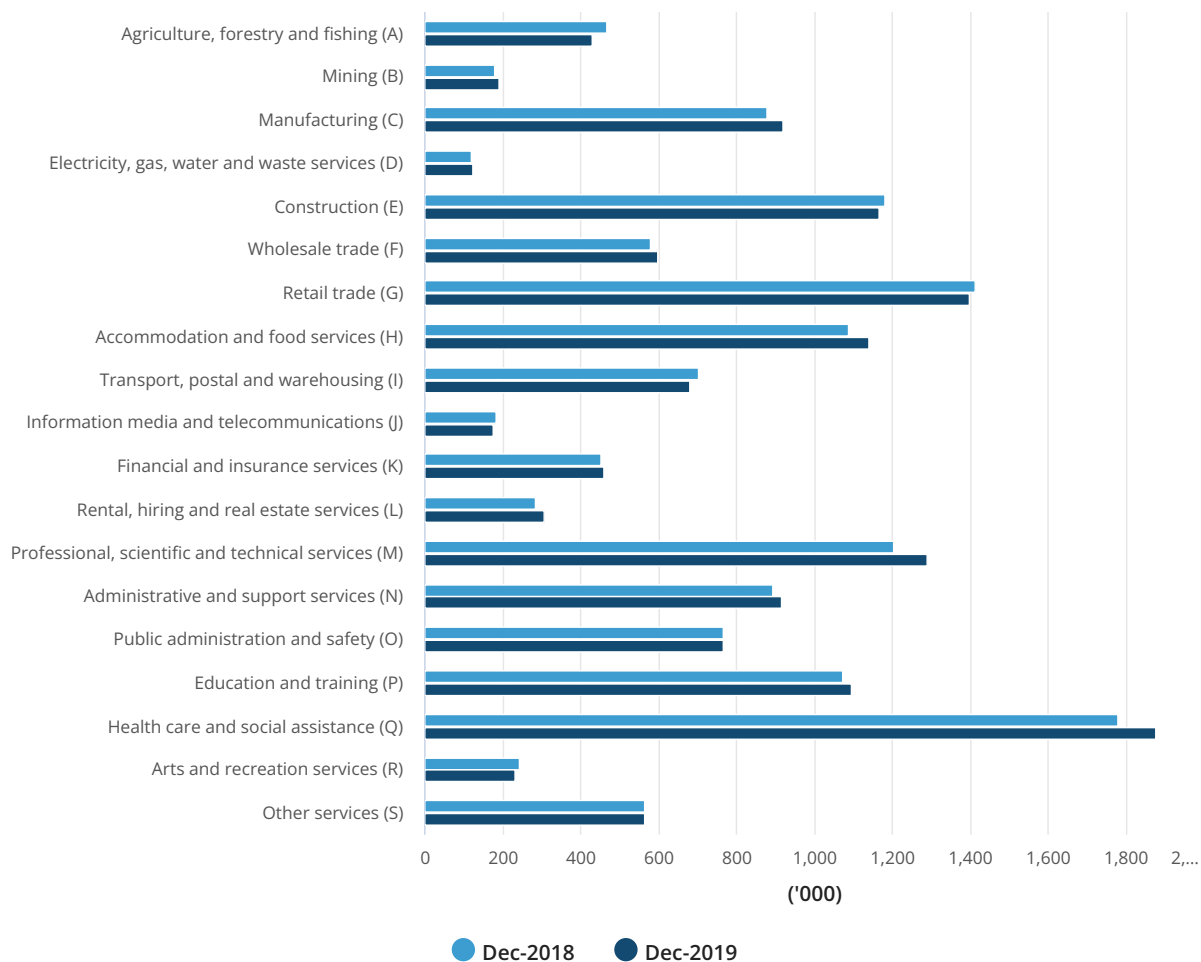
Persons

The Australian Labour Account produces the number of people employed from an industry perspective. As a result, the sum of employed persons in the Australian Labour Account

across industry divisions does not equal the total number of people employed in the whole economy, given some people are employed in multiple industries.

The top three industries who have the highest number of employed persons in the December quarter 2019 were Health care and social assistance, Retail trade and Professional, scientific and technical services.

Employed persons, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019

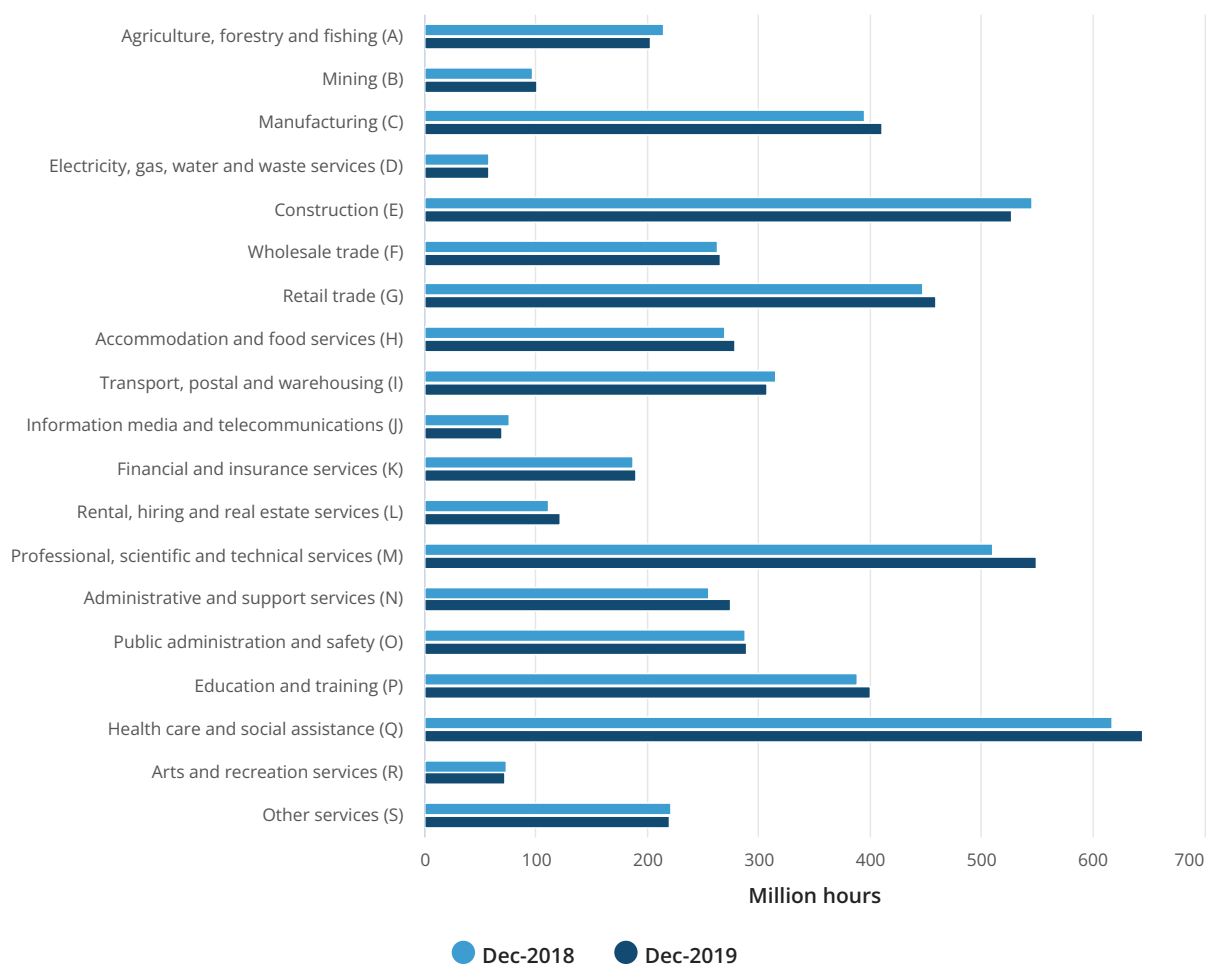


Volume (hours)

Hours actually worked is the time spent in a job for the performance of activities that contribute to the production of goods and services during a specified short or long reference period.

The top three industries who have the highest number of hours actually worked in the December quarter 2019 were Health care and social assistance, Professional, scientific and technical services and Construction.

Hours actually worked (millions), by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019

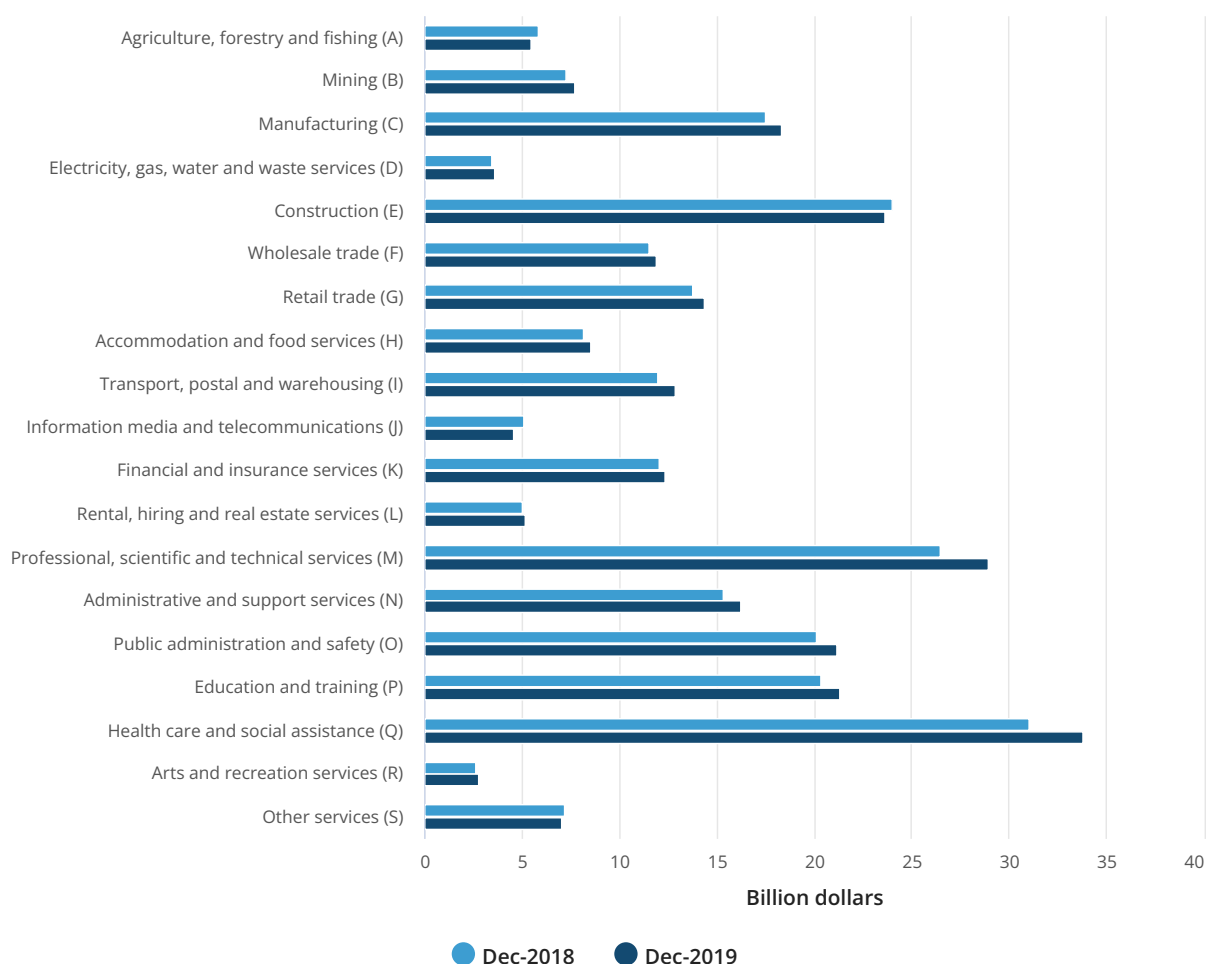


Payments

The Labour Account Payments quadrant presents the costs incurred by enterprises in employing labour, and the incomes received by people from its provision. Total income consists of compensation of employees and labour income from self-employment. The addition of other related costs to employers to total income will derive total labour costs.

The top three industries who have the highest total labour income in the December quarter 2019 were Health care and social assistance, Professional, scientific and technical services and Construction.

Total labour income, by industry, Dec qtr 2018 and Dec qtr 2019



Removing the experimental status and other changes

Changes in future issues - removing experimental label

The ABS is planning to remove the experimental label from the Australian Labour Account with the March issue, to be published in June 2020. The ABS invites any input or feedback from stakeholders on the Labour Account prior to this time, as the ABS will seek to minimise

revisions to the Labour Account estimates in the future.

Changes in this issue - impact of recent bushfires

A key input to the Labour Account is the monthly Labour Force Survey. While bushfires resulted in some disruption to data collection activities during December 2019, these disruptions did not result in any impacts to Labour Force Survey statistics. For further information, refer to details in [Labour Force, Australia \(https://www.archive.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6202.0Main%20Features1Dec%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6202.0&issue=Dec%202019&num=&view=\)](https://www.archive.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Previousproducts/6202.0Main%20Features1Dec%202019?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6202.0&issue=Dec%202019&num=&view=) (cat. no. 6202.0).

Changes in this issue - revisions

Data in the four quadrants of the Labour Account, both quarterly and annual, have been revised from the previously published estimates.

Revisions may be attributable to a range of factors, including:

- Revisions to quarterly source data, including:
 - revisions to data from the Labour Force Survey,
 - revisions to Overseas Arrivals and Departures data, and
 - revisions to data from the quarterly Australian National Accounts.
- Seasonal factors for quarterly seasonally adjusted and trend data have been refined with the addition of a further quarterly observation.

To see the impact of these updates, refer to Table 22. Quarterly Revisions.

Data downloads

Table 1. Total all industries - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[726 KB]

Table 2. Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[698.5 KB]

Table 3. Mining (B) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[696.5 KB]

Table 4. Manufacturing (C) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

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[697 KB]

Table 5. Electricity, gas, water and waste services (D) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(d3fb9f94af8b26d1c844efa9a98805b0_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[755 KB]

Table 6. Construction (E) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(10f8862fc183b400327470ea85afe9ae_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[697 KB]

Table 7. Wholesale trade (F) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(d5d7044e5caf6907399af2dced8d6ff8_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[697 KB]

Table 8. Retail trade (G) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[697 KB]

Table 9. Accommodation and food services (H) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

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[698 KB]

Table 10. Transport, postal and warehousing (I) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(f9f168a9979beed8b01f8750d577d508_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[698.5 KB]

Table 11. Information media and telecommunications (J) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(13163d77073735089069a7603de98433_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[699 KB]

Table 12. Financial and insurance services (K) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(608bfbc50031d613907ec08333d4afc7_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[754 KB]

Table 13. Rental, hiring and real estate services (L) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(d0f94333c2b73aab8679cc2274b0c801_img.jpg\) Download XLS](#)

[698.5 KB]

Table 14. Professional, scientific and technical services (M) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(08a82c22d89d6b027ff69762ad096586_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[699.5 KB\]](#)

Table 15. Administrative and support services (N) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(d84e7ea36f695d92cb39ec32c307ac93_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[698.5 KB\]](#)

Table 16. Public administration and safety (O) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(9dfdaff1d86ba3c1f8353b4d1b61b8c5_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[754 KB\]](#)

Table 17. Education and training (P) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(8d0f0e0fe25b320c33272c52aec1fbca_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[697.5 KB\]](#)

Table 18. Health care and social assistance (Q) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(2b376d1a92330ab09dad2665d2f89bf5_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[698.5 KB\]](#)

Table 19. Arts and recreation services (R) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(d0262bbe9d2356661a2e89321dfcc781_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[698 KB\]](#)

Table 20. Other services (S) - trend, seasonally adjusted and original

[!\[\]\(c444627dab9fee9a1550c053ffaaaae2_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[697 KB\]](#)

Table 21. Unbalanced: total all industries - original

[!\[\]\(274fd520e03b61c1b9ffc861754cacdc_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[162.5 KB\]](#)

Table 22. Quarterly revisions

[!\[\]\(06a315363e7801bba8c7489a6694af19_img.jpg\) **Download XLS**](#)
[\[5.18 MB\]](#)

History of changes

Show all

6/11/2020 - Amendments made to correct unit labels on two graphs - Hours actually worked and Total labour income by industry. There are no revisions to any time series or excel spreadsheets.

Methodology

[Labour Account Australia methodology, December 2019](#)